



2006

Arbor Day - Earth Day Calendar



Leah Vosters, First Place, St. Florian School, Hatley, Teacher: Cheryl Woyak

Great Grandfather Willow

Megan Binkley, First Place

Long, star-silver branches
awakened by the seedling
my great grandfather planted
so many seasons ago.

Recorder of time,
swaying in the breeze;
a time-caressed giant
sighing in the wind.

Do you hear the wind
singing through your branches,
about the river that trickles, runs,
gushes over your roots
that stretch down,
forever into eternity?

Do you see the colorful spirits,
darting through your boughs,
singing their harmonious song?

Do you hear the sweet
sounds of Honey Creek
splashing,
rippling,
under you,
gentle, dancing giant?

Ancient one,
great grandfather willow,
hear me now and rejoice.
Rejoice that you have children
to play on you
and fly through the air
on your long, slender branches,
and to once again enjoy
your beauty and splendor.

School: Van Hise Elementary School, Madison

Teacher: Nancy Peterson

CESA: District 2



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
PUB-FR-128 2006

Special
TREE CITY USAs
poster inside!

2006 Arbor Day Poster Contest

The Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division is sponsoring the fourteenth annual Arbor Day Poster Contest for all state 5th Graders. The contest is part of a national competition sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation and is the culmination of an Arbor Day curriculum unit that is provided to each 5th grade teacher. Over 1000 students participated in the 2005 contest.

The 2006 theme is

“Trees are Terrific . . . in All Shapes and Sizes!”

The artwork must be original and signed by the artist. It may be done in marker, crayon, watercolor, ink, acrylic or tempera paint. The brighter colors make the best poster! No computer generated art or glued collages are allowed. It must be no larger than 14"x18" and no smaller than 8½"x 11". The theme must be on the poster, spelled correctly and easy to read.

Only one poster may be submitted per school, so a school contest is necessary. Judging guidelines are included in the curriculum package.

Awards will be given to the top three posters in the state and the first place poster will be forwarded to the national competition. Wisconsin's first, second and third place winners will be presented with plaques and savings bonds of \$100, \$75, and \$50 respectively and their teachers will receive a scholarship for a Learning, Experience & Activities in Forestry (LEAF) teacher's workshop and honored with books at an award ceremony in Madison in spring 2006. The Wisconsin Arborist Association donates the student awards and LEAF, Wisconsin's K-12 Forestry Education Program, the scholarships. The three student winners will also receive a landscape tree to be planted at their school or in their community, donated by the Wisconsin Nursery Association. The top 12 posters will be featured in the DNR's 2007 Arbor Day/Earth Day calendar and will appear on the Environmental Education for Kids website *EEK!*

Contest and curriculum materials, addressed to “5th grade teacher,” were sent to all public and private elementary schools in October 2005.

Entries must be postmarked by February 21, 2006.

For more information or additional contest packets contact: Arbor Day Poster Contest, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707 or e-mail richard.rideout@dnr.state.wi.us.

Seventeenth Annual Forest Appreciation Week Writing Contest

“Gifts from the Forest”

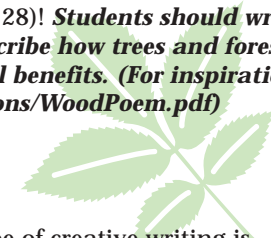
Each year the Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division encourages fourth grade students across Wisconsin to think and write about our trees and forests through the Forest Appreciation Week Writing Contest. This year's theme “Gifts from the Forest” asks students to write about the amazing contributions that forests provide to us on a daily basis. Please encourage your students to investigate the forest products found in their homes and schools, to discover the many surprising products that come from trees and to celebrate our natural resources from Earth Day (April 22) to Arbor Day (April 28)! ***Students should write about the tree products used in their daily life and describe how trees and forests provide us with both wood products and environmental benefits. (For inspiration check out <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/Publications/WoodPoem.pdf>)***

Contest Requirements:

- ✦ Fourth Grade Students Only
- ✦ Submit only one (1) entry per classroom
- ✦ Any written form, including essay, poetry or other type of creative writing is acceptable. The entry must be 200 words or less and follow the theme “Gifts from the Forest.”
- ✦ Writing must be the original work of a student currently in fourth grade.
- ✦ A participant report form must be attached to your classroom entry. Your classroom entry must be sent to the designated judging team coordinator listed in the 2006 writing contest packet. *Note: Contest packets will be mailed to fourth grade teachers in late January.*
- ✦ A semi-finalist will be chosen from each CESA District and their essays will appear in the 2007 Arbor Day-Earth Day Calendar and on the WDNR Environmental Education for Kids website *EEK!*
- ✦ A panel of judges from the Department of Natural Resources will review the 12 semi-finalists and select the top three state winners. The three state winners and their teachers will be recognized for their achievement at a special celebration in our state capitol. The students will be presented with savings bonds of \$100, \$75 and \$50 respectively. The Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association donates the awards. The students will also receive a landscape tree to be planted at their school or in their community, donated by the Wisconsin Nursery Association and their teachers will receive a scholarship for a Learning, Experience & Activities in Forestry (LEAF) teacher's workshop plus additional classroom supplies. Parents, students and teachers will be honored.

Entries must be postmarked by March 10, 2006.

For more information contact: Forestry Week Writing Contest. Wisconsin DNR, Forestry Division, PO Box 7921, Madison WI 53707-7921 or email genny.fannucchi@dnr.state.wi.us





Students, teachers, sponsors and dignitaries celebrate Arbor Day at the 2005 Statewide Special Achievement Ceremony. This special ceremony in celebration of the 133rd anniversary of Arbor Day and the 122nd year of its celebration by Wisconsin school children honors the top three state winners of the Fourth Grade Forest Appreciation Week Writing and Fifth Grade Arbor Day Poster contests. From left to right (first row) First Place writing Megan Binkley, Van Hise Elementary; Third Place writing, Samantha Olson, Miller Elementary; Second Place poster, Jordin Miller, Wheatland Center Elementary; First Place poster, Leah Vosters, St. Florian Grade School; Second Place writing, Gretchen Klefstad, Prairie Farm Elementary; Third Place poster, Ashley Sigetich, Kosciuszko Elementary. Teachers and friends (second row) Nancy Peterson of Van Hise Elementary; Mrs. Gasser, Miller Elementary; Pat-Agnew-Howe (arts teacher) Wheatland Center Elementary School; First Lady Jessica Doyle; Cheryl Woyak of St. Florian Grade School; Mrs. Gasser of Miller Elementary and Mrs. Katherine E. Lewis of Kosciuszko Elementary. Third row: Kathy Swingen, Wisconsin Nursery Association; Paul DeLong, Chief State Forester, WDNR; State Senator Fred Risser; Brian Cassity, Wisconsin Arborist Association; William (Bill) Smith, Deputy Secretary WDNR; Nancy Livingston, Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association.



Students and teachers from left to right (first row) Ashley Sigetich, Gretchen Klefstad, Jordin Miller, Samantha Olson, Leah Vosters and Megan Binkley. Second row: Mrs. Katherine E. Lewis, Mrs. Sandy Hoffman, Pat Agnew-Howe, Mrs. Gasser, Cheryl Woyak and Nancy Peterson.

Arbor Day Free Tree Program for Fourth Graders

Arbor Day has been an American tradition since 1872. A pioneer and journalist, J. Sterling Morton, introduced a resolution in Nebraska creating Arbor Day as a day “especially set apart and consecrated for tree planting.” Arbor Day has been celebrated in Wisconsin since 1883 and is always celebrated on the last Friday in April.

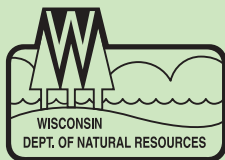
To encourage the celebration of Arbor Day the Wisconsin Legislature in 1979 passed a law directing the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources’ state nurseries to provide a free seedling to each fourth grade student in Wisconsin. Each year the state nurseries distribute nearly 80,000 seedlings to fourth grade pupils in Wisconsin for celebration of Arbor Day.

In early November, a letter is sent to each public and private elementary school explaining how to order the trees. Orders are only accepted from schools, not individuals, and only one order per school or school district.

Arbor Day offers the unique opportunity to educate students on the value and care of trees and forests. Planting trees enhances Wisconsin’s natural beauty, provides wildlife habitat, prevents soil erosion, improves air quality, provides shade and conserves valuable energy. As the student’s tree grows, hopefully the student’s knowledge of and respect for the forest environment grows as well.

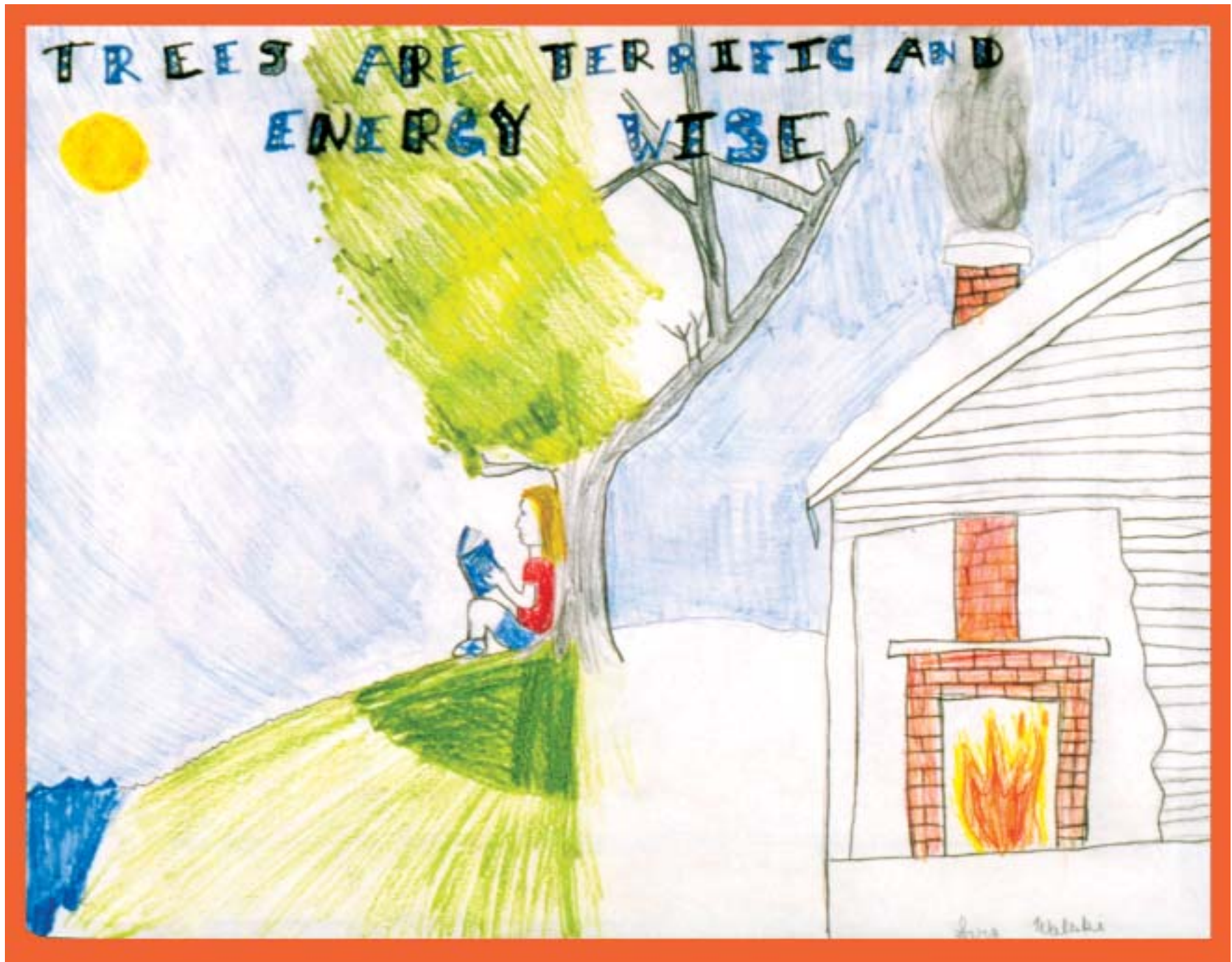
For additional information on Wisconsin’s Arbor Day Free Tree Program contact the Griffith State Nursery, 473 Griffith Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494, telephone (715) 424-3700.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.



The National Arbor Day Foundation





Sara Walski, Honorable Mention
Cochrane-Fountain City Elementary, Fountain City
Teacher: Larry Cyrus

January

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2006

Sun • Mon • Tues • Wed • Thur • Fri • Sat

My Big Tree Ellen Pickering

Tree, tree you're so special to me.
 You're older than a person ever could be.
 As fall passes by, your leaves shed to the ground,
 Leaving you bare, no cover to be found.
 Winter comes and you stand covered in snow,
 Peeking buds with no where to go.
 How do you stand those cold winter nights?
 Watching us stay warm when we turn off the lights?
 Spring is here,
 Your leaves are near.
 We play around you, Hide and Seek.
 You make sure we don't peek.
 Summer, summer could it be any more fun?
 Your leaves shade me from the hot midday sun.
 A year has gone by,
 Time surely flies
 As you get older your branches are growing up to the sky,
 The roots going down never to die.
 As I grow older this is true,
 I hope to grow to be like you.

School: Lincoln School, Wauwatosa
 Teacher: Mary Fravert
 CESA: District 1
 Honorable Mention

1 New Year's Day Make a resolution to visit a forest this year.	2	3	4 Put your old Christmas tree near a bird feeder.	5	6 Count the birds you see today. What kinds are they?	7
8	9	10 Teachers, have you ordered your 4 th grade Arbor Day free trees yet?	11 Conservationist Aldo Leopold born (1887)	12	13 Listen for drumming woodpeckers.	14 ○ Full (Wolf) Moon Submission Deadline Wisconsin Environmental Education Grants
15 Time to watch bald eagles along Lower Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers	16 Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday (observed)	17	18	19 How do Canada geese and robins spend the winter months?	20	21
22	23	24	25 Beaver begin mating	26 Identify fresh tracks in the snow.	27 Fourth Grade Arbor Day Free Tree application deadline	28
29 Chinese New Year - Year of the Dog - Lunar Year 4704	30 Learn about winter tree identification.	31 Practice snowmobile safety.	Art — Make wooden bird houses, feeders or jewelry. Create handmade paper greeting cards. Design creatures from cones, twigs and other tree parts.			

Trees Are Terrific And
Energy Wise!



PaZong Vang, Honorable Mention
Fort Howard Elementary, Green Bay
Teacher: Craig Buss

February

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My Favorite Tree

Danielle Rose Paquette

The Sugar Maple is also known as a hard maple or rock maple. The real name for a Sugar Maple is *Acer saccharum*.

The Sugar Maple is a slow growing hardwood tree. It can grow to be 130 feet high and be 3 or more feet round. They can live to be very old. The leaves of a maple tree are wide and deeply indented. They are usually 2 to 5 inches in length. In the fall they turn to beautiful colors.

The maple is best known for two things, its helicopter seeds and the syrup or sugar. The helicopter seeds are actually the fruit of the maple tree. The Sugar Maple is also used for its hardwood to make furniture, flooring, cabinets and fuel to heat homes.

Sugar Maples are most common to the New England and the Great Lakes, but are also in Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York. This is the only part of the world which has proper conditions for this tree. Therefore, the only part of the world that can produce maple syrup. That's why the sugar maple tree is my favorite tree.


School: Cuba City Elementary, Cuba City

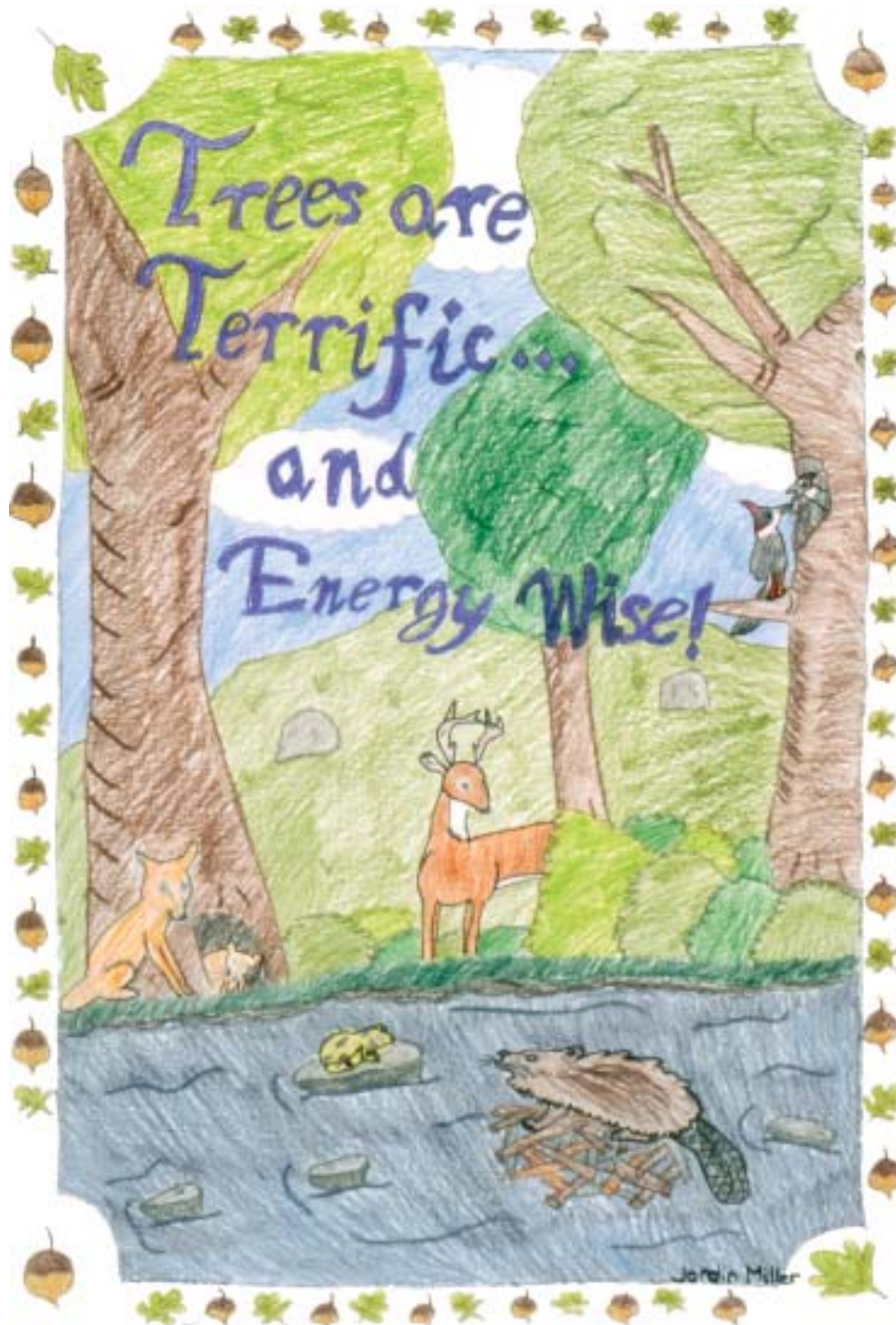
Teacher: Susan Schwingle

CESA: District 3

Honorable Mention

Get Involved with Project Learning Tree:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/pltwild/plt.htm>

			1	2 Groundhog Day	3 Black bear cubs born in dens	4
5	6 Great horned owls nesting	7	8	9 Are there buds on branches yet? Look closely under a microscope!	10	11
12 ○ Full (Snow) Moon	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17 Maple sap begins to run as days warm.	18
19	20 President's Day	21 Arbor Day Poster Contest for 5 th Grade classroom entries due. Theme: "Trees are Terrific...in All Shapes and Sizes!"	22	23 Time to build a birdhouse	24	25 Bobcats begin mating
26 National Invasive Weed Awareness Week (Feb 26-March 4)	27	28 Learn an outdoor skill.	Social Studies/Language Arts — Interview people of many ages to learn how trees touch their lives. Write an article or letter to the editor of your local or school newspaper sharing your findings.			



Jordin Miller, Second Place
Wheatland Center Elementary School,
Burlington
Teacher: Pat Agnew-Howe

March

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2006

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My Enormous Elm Tree

Gretchen Klefstad

My favorite tree is an enormous elm found in my backyard. It leans like a gigantic sunflower caught in a windstorm. It's the first tree in my yard that changes colors, like a chameleon from green to yellow. A faded blue swing that I got when I was small hangs from a branch.

When I'm swinging I think of many things. The first thing I think about is my family and how lucky I am that they're there for me and support me like the tree branches support my swing.

The second thing I think about is my friends who laugh and cry with me. We share strong emotions like the strong limbs share the weather that hits my tree. On my swing I think about what I'll be when I grow up. I hope to be just like my tree – sturdy, supportive and strong.

A world without trees would be like a world without humans because there would be no one to think or dream with.

Just as my tree helps me see how important all things are to me, my family and friends help me realize how special my tree is to me.

School: Prairie Farm Elementary, Prairie Farm
Teacher: Mrs. Sandy Hoffman
CESA: 11
Second Place

Science — Plant and study tree seeds, record germination rates and grow seedlings. Give as Mother's Day gifts!			1	2 Read Across America Day	3 Aldo Leopold Weekend March 3-5	4
5	6	7	8	9 Ducks, geese and sandhill cranes returning from the south	10 Forest Appreciation Week Writing contest for fourth graders entries due - Theme: "Gifts from the Forest"	11
12 It's true! It takes 35 to 40 gallons of maple sap to make one gallon of syrup.	13	14 ○ Full (Worm) Moon	15 Check birdhouses for damage and clean them before spring birds arrive.	16 Chipmunks emerge from hibernation. What's hibernation?	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
19	20 First day of Spring — Have you seen a robin?	21	22 Home Safe Home. Does your home have a smoke detector?	23	24 Does your school have a school forest?	25
26 Time to take a spring nature hike	27	28	29 Total solar eclipse visible in some parts of the world	30 First pencil with eraser patented (1858)	31 Think about March weather. Did it "come in like a lion, go out like a lamb?"	

Visit the WDNR Forestry Website:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/>



Leah Vosters, First Place
St. Florian School, Hatley
Teacher: Cheryl Woyak

April

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2006

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Great Grandfather Willow

Megan Binkley

Long, star-silver branches
awakened by the seedling
my great grandfather planted
so many seasons ago.

Recorder of time,
swaying in the breeze;
a time-caressed giant
sighing in the wind.

Do you hear the wind
singing through your branches,
about the river that trickles, runs,
gushes over your roots
that stretch down,
forever into eternity?

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darting through your boughs,
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Ancient one,
great grandfather willow,
hear me now and rejoice.
Rejoice that you have children
to play on you
and fly through the air
on your long, slender branches,
and to once again enjoy
your beauty and splendor.

School: Van Hise Elementary School, Madison
Teacher: Nancy Peterson
CESA: District 2
First Place

Get Involved with LEAF
(Learning, Experiences & Activities in Forestry):
<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/>

<p>Social Studies/Music - Celebrate Spring! Connect Earth Day to Arbor Day! Fill your school with music, plan an Earth Day concert. Fly a school Earth Day flag, read aloud winning classroom essays about forests and trees, display Arbor Day posters. Hold a school-wide tree search and find large, unusual or historical community trees. Plant an Earth Day/Arbor Day time capsule.</p>						<p>1 April Fool's Day</p>
<p>2 Daylight Saving Time begins. Set clocks ahead one hour. Time to change the batteries in your smoke detector!</p>	3	4	5	6	7	<p>8 Be extra careful with fire on windy days!</p>
<p>9</p>	10	<p>11 Only 18 days until Arbor Day. Start planning!</p>	<p>12 Passover begins at sundown</p>	<p>13 ○ Full (Pink) Moon</p>	<p>14 Good Friday</p>	<p>15 Bald eagles incubating eggs</p>
<p>16 Easter</p>	<p>17 Wisconsin Wildfire Prevention Week (April 17-21)</p>	18	19	<p>20 Check your woodlands for spring wildflowers.</p>	<p>21 Listen for grouse drumming.</p>	<p>22  Earth Day</p>
<p>23 Celebrate Forest Appreciation Week (23-29)</p>	24	25	<p>26 Everyone has a favorite tree story. What's yours?</p>	<p>27 Trees cool city hot spots.</p>	<p>28 Arbor Day  Life on earth is inconceivable without trees!</p>	29
30						



Ashley Sigetich, Third Place
Kosciuszko Elementary School, Cudahy
Teacher: Ms. Katherine E. Lewis

May

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2006

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My Favorite Tree

Samantha Olson

My favorite tree is not a tall majestic tree but short and round. This tree seemed like a big tree to a little kid. The branches were twisted and curly but it has left me with many memories. My favorite tree was a plum tree in the corner of our yard.

Some of my favorite memories were my sister and I climbing up the tree. We played games and pretended to be Tarzan and Jane escaping from ferocious tigers.

Springtime brought the beautiful smell of the blossoms. We watched robins and morning doves use the tree.

Summertime brought the sweet juicy plums to eat. I would see how far I could spit the pits.

The plums on the ground would become missiles to throw at some unsuspecting person.

We enjoyed many afternoon snacks under the cool shade of the tree.

I am sad to say that my special tree is gone now, a victim of a wind storm. We planted a maple in its place but it will never replace my old friend. The plum tree was a place where I could go and have fun while learning about the world around me. It will always be my favorite tree.

School: Miller Elementary, Tomah

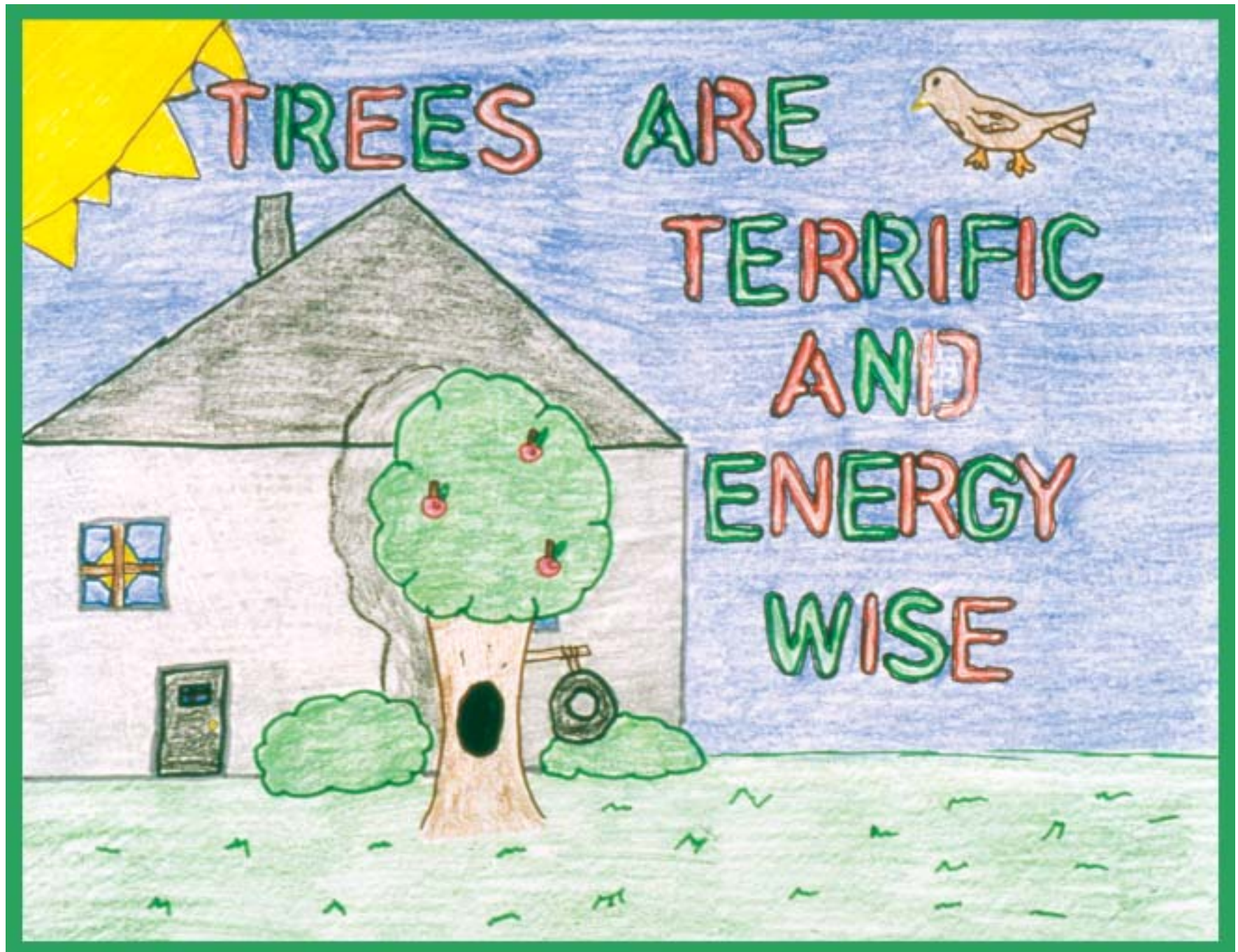
Teacher: Mrs. Gasser

CESA: District 4

Third Place

Visit EEK! (Environmental Education for Kids):
<http://dnr.wi.gov/eeek/>

	1 Wild turkeys are gobbling	2	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6 Put up hummingbird feeders - 1 part sugar to 4 parts water.
7	8	9	10	11 What makes a good tree from a woodpecker's point of view?	12	13 ○ Full (Flower) Moon International Migratory Bird Day
14 Mother's Day	15	16	17 It's true! A seven inch bullfrog can jump as far as five feet.	18	19 Discover the outdoors! Learn to fish!	20
21	22	23 Look for wild asparagus.	24	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day (observed) Statehood Day - Wisconsin is 158 years old.	30	31 Monarch butterflies arriving	 <p>Geography — Map the vegetation around your school grounds. Conduct a tree planting project.</p>		



Natasha Weren, Honorable Mention
Shiocton Elementary School, Shiocton
Teacher: Deborah A. Mentzel

June

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My Favorite Tree

Tony Nichols

Magically made
Your cool playhouse

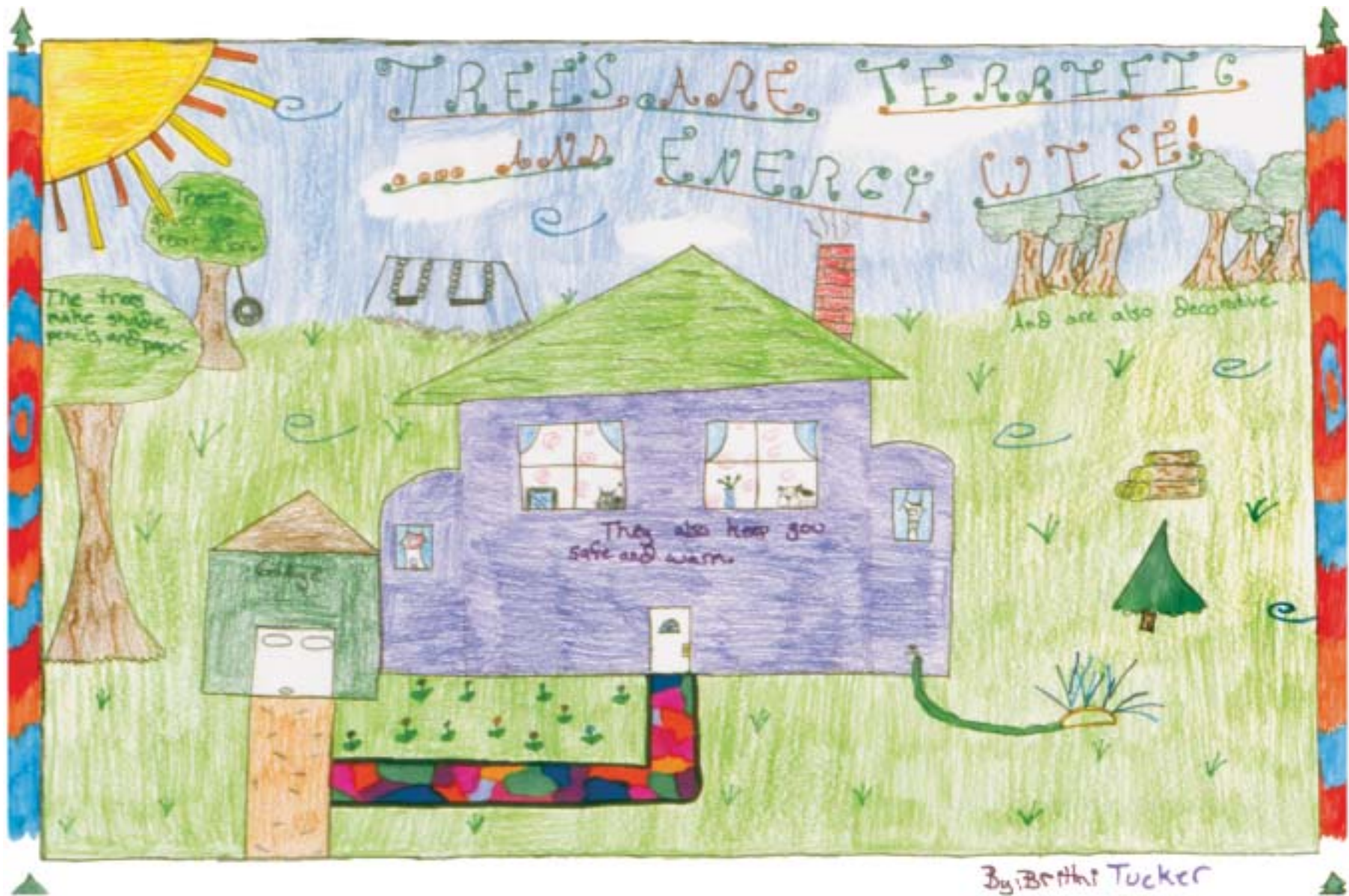
Fun to climb in
Awesome to hide in
Vacant and calm
Oozing with fun
Radical action zone
Imagination zone
Terrific to have fun with
Empire of forests

Technically superb
Remedy makers
Energy usage area
Emotion reliever

Pine Tree

School: Our Lady of Peace
Intermediate School, Marshfield
Teacher: Mrs. Donna Hayes
CESA: District 5
Honorable Mention

<p>Science — Keep a log of how wildlife uses your neighborhood trees. Describe the animals (including insects!) and how they use flowers, leaves, limbs, seeds and bark. Surprises await you!</p> 				1	2	3 Free Fishing Weekend - time to visit our state parks and forests!
4	5 World Environment Day	6	7	8	9 Peak time for deer fawn births	10 Luna moths seen at night
11 ○ Full (Strawberry) Moon	12	13	14 Flag Day	15 It's true! Near the Pacific Coast some bristlecone pines have been growing for over 5,000 years.	16	17
18 Father's Day	19	20	21 Summer begins	22	23	24
25 Listen for green frogs —a banjo twang.	26	27	28 Fireflies brighten the night.	29	30 Have a picnic in the shade of a favorite tree.	



Brittnei Tucker, Honorable Mention
Spring Valley Elementary School, Antigo
Teacher: Kay Parise

July

2006

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June 2006						
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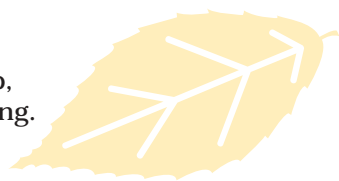
My Favorite Tree

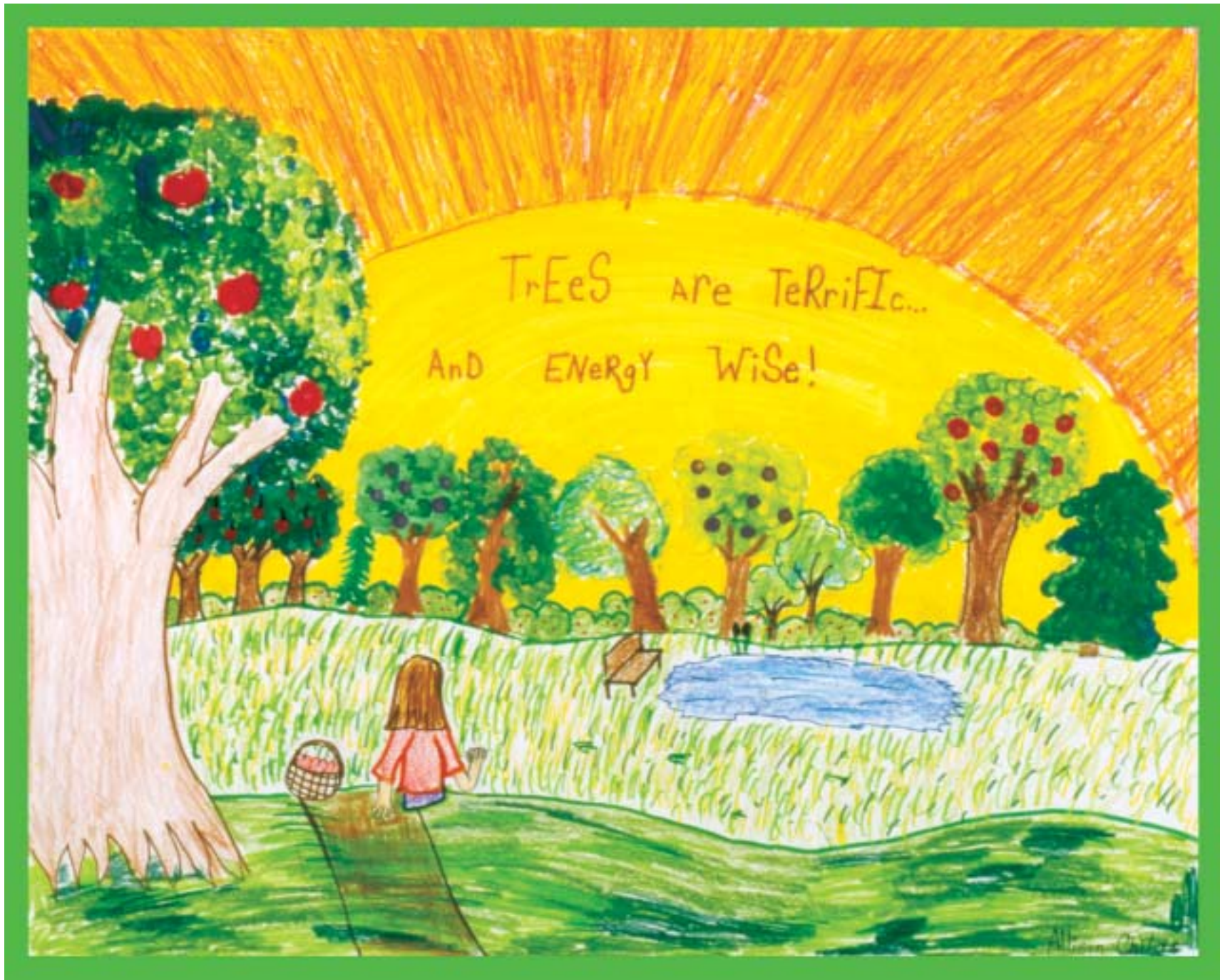
Laura Sowin

My favorite tree is a tree growing up north at my cabin. The tree's main branch arches over the lake so when we walk under it, it's like you are walking under a big bridge. The tree is growing right next to the lake. One of the reasons I like the tree is that it provides shade on hot days. The shade keeps me from getting sunburned. It is fun to wade beneath the tree because no seaweed grows in the water under the bending branches. I love the feel of smooth sand between my toes better than the feel of disgusting seaweed. Once I even saw a blue heron wading on and watching out from the shoreline rocks beneath the tree! The last thing I like about the tree is that it is a great fishing place because there are so many lily pads growing around my favorite tree. I have caught a lot of big fish there. I have also seen little turtles and frogs swimming around the lily pads. That's why I like this tree up north at my cabin.

School: Horizons Elementary School, Appleton
Teacher: Scott Niquette
CESA: District 6
Honorable Mention

Visit the WDNR Forestry Website:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/>

Science – Identify ten different trees by leaves, bark, shape, wood, etc. Sample tree products: maple syrup, apples, nuts. Determine which tree parts you're eating. 						1 Canada Day
2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7 It's true! A robin may devour as much as 14 feet of worms on a good day of hunting.	8
9	10 ○ Full (Buck) Moon	11	12	13	14	15 Butterfly weed in bloom
16 Lake Superior Day	17 Look for monarch caterpillars on milkweed foliage.	18	19	20 Humans land on the moon – (1969)	21	22
23	24	25	26 It's true! Only male crickets chirp.	27	28 Walking sticks are abundant	29 Make it a rule to keep lawn mowers and bikes away from trees.
30	31					



Allison Childs, Honorable Mention
Friess Lake School, Hubertus
Teacher: Mrs. Azoff and Mrs. Schuetz

August

July 2006						
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September 2006						
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2006

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My Favorite Tree

Marissa Munoz

I have a magnificent tree and it is in my own neighborhood. I like my tree because it is very quaint to sit under with its refreshing shade.

I love to hear the wind gently whistling through the branches and making the brittle branches of the tree sway side to side. The leaves of the tree are a beautiful light green. I also love the tree because I get to swing on the branches.

Even though in the winter the tree might be bare, it still glistens like glitter with the cold snow on its branches.

When I look up at the tree I like to stare at the little nests and sometimes I get to see pretty colored baby birds take off and fly. I also like to see the adorable baby squirrels climb down the willows bark.

So this magnificent willow tree is my absolute favorite tree.

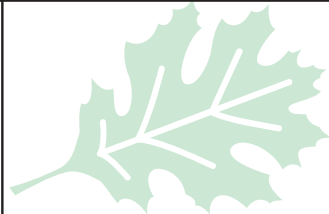
School: James Madison Elementary,
Sheboygan

Teacher: Phyllis Becker

CESA: District 7

Honorable Mention

Get Involved with LEAF
(Learning, Experiences & Activities in Forestry):
<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/>

Art — Design a T-shirt with a forest theme. Photograph your friends in their leaf-print t-shirts.		1 Day Lilies in bloom	2	3	4 Young loons are learning to fly.	5
6	7 Yellow jackets or white faced hornets make paper-like nests.	8	9 ○ Full (Sturgeon) Moon Smokey Bear is 62 years old. Smokey knows unattended campfires spell disaster.	10	11 Perseid meteors	12 It's true! A hummingbird feeds every 10 minutes, visiting as many as 1,000 flowers daily.
13	14 Time to get ready for school	15	16	17 Wild rice ripens.	18	19
20 Watch for migrating nighthawks.	21	22 Turtle eggs are beginning to hatch.	23	24	25	26
27 Spider webs glisten like diamonds in the early morning sunshine.	28	29	30	31 It's true! Flying squirrels have been known to glide for 75 feet with their "wings", which are called "patagiums."		



Emily Adkins, Honorable Mention
Doty Elementary, Green Bay
Teacher: Kathleen M. Anderson

September

August 2006						
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October 2006						
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2006

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My Favorite Tree

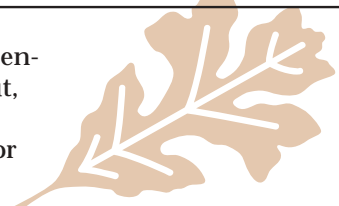
Jenna Schauer

My favorite tree is an apple tree. It's found in the Western corner of our hay field. My tree is about twenty-five years old. It grows apples every two years. Sometimes we climb up the tree to get apples. We take the apples to the pigs and the deer in our back field. Our cows also like the fresh apples from our apple tree. The tree has about one hundred apples on it every two years. My apple tree has marks on it to let us know everything we did to it in the past. Some of the marks are for the white flowers it grows before the apples and another mark is for the apples it grows. Another mark is for the age it is.

School: Sacred Heart Grade School,
Shawano

Teacher: Mrs. Theresa Mastrodonato

CESA: District 8
Honorable Mention

Geography — Dissect a candy bar to identify tree products (nuts, cocoa, coconut, wrapper). Map their possible origins. Show how people depend on forests for food, shelter and livelihood. 					1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6 Deer fawns lose their spots.	7 ○ Full (Corn) Moon	8	9 Bucks rub velvet from antlers.
10 Grandparents Day	11 Patriot Day	12	13 Have the acorns fallen yet?	14 Woodsy Owl is 35 years old. Woodsy reminds us to "Lend a Hand - Care for the Land."	15	16 Mexican Independence Day
17	18	19	20 Get set for the hunting season—take a hunter education course.	21 Practice campfire safety.	22 Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown	23 Fall begins Fall is a good time to plant trees!
24 First day of Ramadan	25 Learn to identify trees by their leaves.	26	27	28 Why do leaves change colors?	29	30



Nicole McKenzie, Honorable Mention
Grantsburg Middle School, Grantsburg
Teacher: Mrs. Yvonne Bergman

October

September							2006						
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November							2006						
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26	27	28	29	30									

2006

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My Favorite Tree

Isaac Huftel

How much fun would it be
To climb a towering maple tree?
Or sit beneath its branches tall
And watch helicopter seeds fall!
In the spring people go out to tap
The maple trees to collect gooey sap.
It's cooked to make a syrup treat,
Poured on waffles it can't be beat.
Broad leaves offer cooling shade
For a picnic or watching a parade.
Autumn colors orange, red, or gold,
What a wonderful sight to behold!

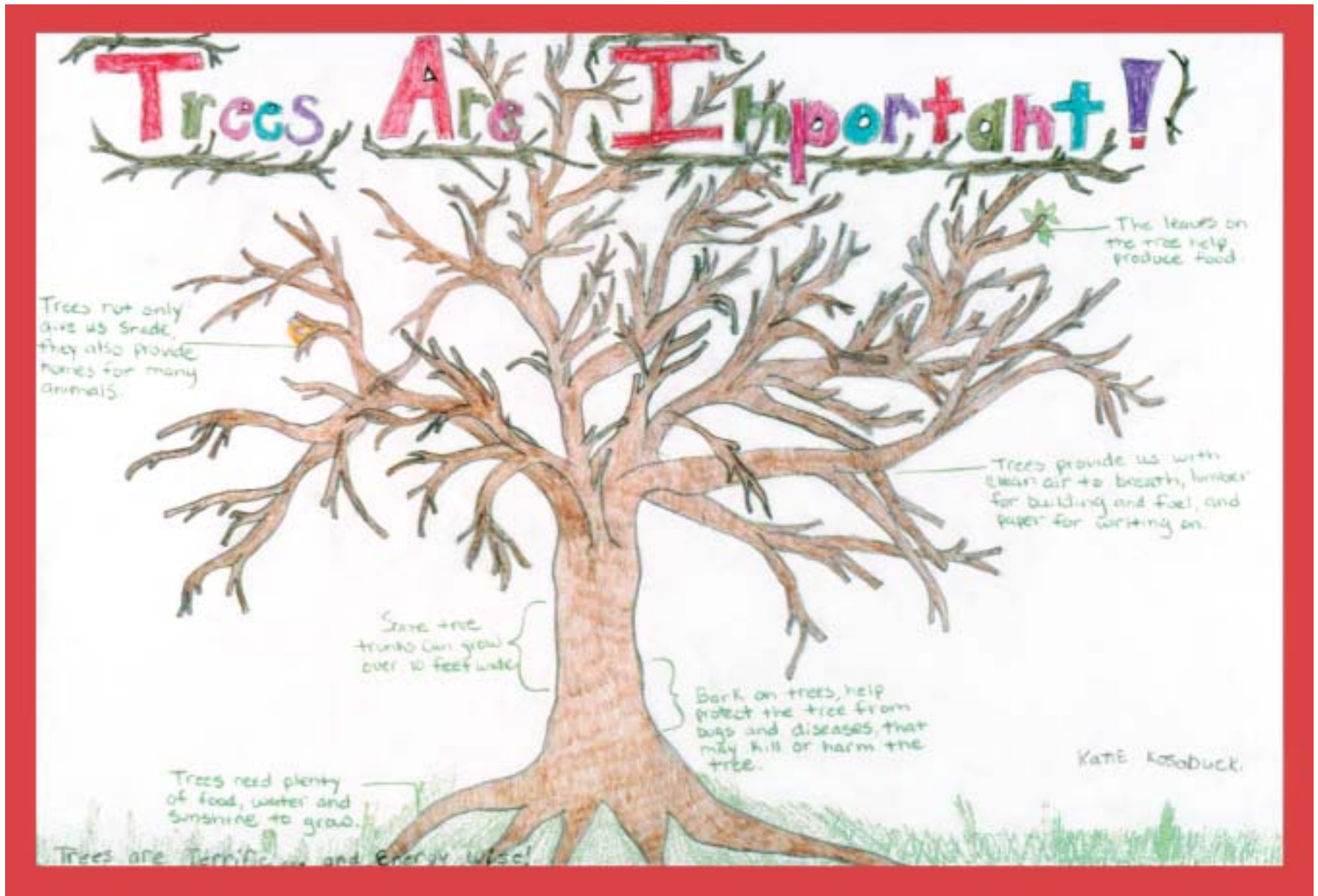
School: St. Francis Xavier Grade School,
Merrill

Teacher: Patricia Novy

CESA: District 9

Honorable Mention

1 Yom Kippur begins at sundown	2	3	4	5	6 ○ Full (Harvest) Moon	7
8 National Fire Prevention Week Oct. 8-14	9 Columbus Day (observed)	10 Discover the outdoors! Learn to use a compass and read maps!	11	12 Have the leaves turned colors in your area?	13 Pestigo Fire (1871)	14 Star Spangled Banner written (1814)
15 National Forest Products Week (15-21)	16	17 Watch for woollybear caterpillars.	18 Time to visit a school forest	19	20 The average American uses about a ton of wood in a year, the equivalent of one 100- foot-tall tree that is 16 inches in diameter.	21
22 Pumpkins ready for pies and jack-o- lanterns	23	24 United Nations Day	25	26	27 A mature tree can have 200,000 leaves. How many leaves has a 60 year old tree shed during its lifetime?	28 Tamaracks turn golden
29 Daylight Saving Time ends and Standard Time begins. Set clocks back 1 hour.	30	31 Halloween	Math — Explore how much wood is used to produce an issue of your favorite comic book or newspaper. Investigate rates of recycling and reforestation. Graph your data.			



Katie Kosobucki, Honorable Mention
Rosholt Elementary School, Rosholt
Teacher: Kristen Marquard

November

October
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
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29 30 31

December
S M T W T F S
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31

2006

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My Favorite Tree: The White Pine

Chelsi Webster

My favorite tree is the tall White Pine.
Its bark is reddish brown.
Its long green needles grow in bundles.
Its slender cones grow down.

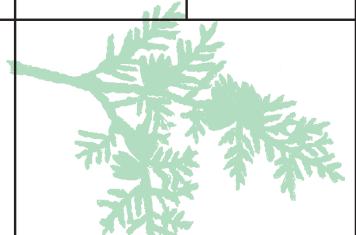
You can find it in the woods,
Where conifers grow tall,
Over-looking the Yellow River,
Where the eagles call.

My tree is where hawks like to rest,
And raccoons like to hide.
Squirrels jump from branch to branch,
Where the eagle's nest is wide.

A pine has many uses:
Veneer lumber for the table,
Sheets of plywood for the house,
Rough lumber for the stable.

The White Pine is special.
It's important too.
But, most importantly of all,
It does so much for you.

School: School District of Gilman, Gilman
Teacher: Mrs. Karen Stendel
CESA: District 10
Honorable Mention

Language Arts — Imagine the most beautiful tree in the world. Think about how it would look, where it would grow, what you would say to it. Share your ideas through stories and drawings.		1 Go on a nest hunt. They're easy to spot in bare trees.	2	3	4 Leave brush piles for wildlife.
5 ○ Full (Hunter's) Moon	6	7 Election Day	8	9	10
11 Veteran's Day Remembrance Day (Canada)	12	13	14	15	16 Look for flocks of migrating swans.
17 World Peace Day	18 Opening weekend gun deer season	19	20	21	22 Raccoons moving into winter quarters
23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25	26	27 Look for snowy owls.	28
29 It's true! During hibernation bears lose their footpads and grow new ones.	30				

Visit the WDNR Forestry Website:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/>



Jenna Rae Wahl, Honorable Mention
Spring Green Elementary, Spring Green
Teacher: Lori Baryenbruch

December

November							2006						
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28	29	30	31										

2006

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My Favorite Tree

Braxton Phillips

My favorite tree is our birch tree in the backyard!

I like this tree because in the summer it gives us shade when we are out on picnics. In the fall we like to rake up all the leaves and jump in them. In the winter it gives shelter to all the little critters from the ice cold. In the spring new leaves begin to grow and it looks beautiful. I am very lucky to have this tree.


School: Northwood School, Minong

Teacher: Nancy Nielcen

CESA: District 12

Honorable Mention

Get Involved with LEAF
(Learning, Experiences & Activities in Forestry):
<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/>

Nature — Remember your feathered friends during the holiday season. Select an outdoor tree and decorate it for the birds. String popcorn garlands around the tree. Fill pine cones and hollowed out orange halves with peanut butter, bird seed and corn meal. Attach them to your tree.						1	2 Keep bird baths ice free.
3	4 ○ Full (Cold) Moon	5	6 Name two animals that hibernate.	7	8	9 If there's snow, look for snow fleas around the base of tree trunks.	
10	11	12 Flying squirrels at suet feeders during the night	13	14	15 Hanukkah begins at sundown	16 Snowflakes can be huge. In 1887 at Fort Keough, Montana some of the snowflakes that fell measured 15 inches in diameter!	
17	18	19 Little black sunflower seeds attract the greatest number of perch-feeding birds.	20	21 Winter begins	22 First string of holiday tree lights created, 1882	23	
24	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa begins	27 Time to build a snowman	28	29 Have the lakes frozen yet?	30	
31 New Year's Eve							

Our forests may not change all that quickly, but the news about our forests changes all the time. Last summer, the big story was about forest **certification**. As of July, 2005, five million acres of Wisconsin forest, amounting to one-third of all our forested lands, had been officially certified.

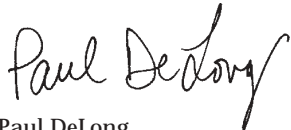
Certification is great news for our woodlands. But most people haven't a clue what it means.

Certification is a "seal of approval" for good forest management, an assurance that the trees and land are treated with care during growing and logging, and that they will be able to provide benefits both to people today and to future generations. We call this "sustainable forestry."

For certification to be meaningful over the long-run, *consumers* – those of us who use forest products daily; and that is *all* of us – must begin seeking out products from sustainably managed forests. We also need to think more about where the things we consume come from. Wood is a renewable resource unlike petroleum-based products such as plastics (did you know plastic is made from oil?). This fact does not make plastic bad; in fact, it is an important component of many things we use. However, since all of us are consumers, we should think more about what we consume, how much we consume, and what impacts our consumption has on our environment, both in our own state and in ecosystems around the world. By doing that, I think we might become more careful consumers and stewards of our natural resources.

Certification is an important new trend in land management, one that holds the potential to help forests in Wisconsin and across the world. And you can help. Ask for "certified" paper, or wood, or furniture, whenever you shop. You may not have much luck at first. But with more and more people asking, maybe some day certified wood will be everywhere.

Now, *that'll* be another big story to talk about!



Paul DeLong
Chief State Forester

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Division of Forestry
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